



John S. Adler, Esq.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

During his more than 40-year legal career, John Adler was a trial lawyer and legal counselor who represented plaintiffs and defendants, including individual litigants and businesses of all sizes in employment law, class actions/PAGA, contracts, business torts, and personal injury matters. For over 20 years as a first-chair plaintiffs' attorney, John handled a wide range of civil litigation matters, obtaining and collecting multi-million-dollar judgments at trials in state and federal courts. John is among the very few attorneys in California to have first-chaired a wage-and-hour class action jury trial, having successfully defended the very high-profile, ten-week case in the San Diego Superior Court in 2016. He has orally argued numerous cases before state and federal appellate courts for individual litigants and for corporate entities. John has served for more than three decades as a neutral arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association and began work as a mediator more than 20 years ago. He has extensive experience effectively handling a vast range of legal matters including all types of employment disputes, and business litigation including unfair trade practices, breach of contract, and personal injury. One attorney who recently mediated with John described him as a "been there" mediator and arbitrator who brings his extensive experience, dedication to fairness, untiring determination to help the parties reach a successful resolution, and integrity. Another attorney commented, "John was truly excellent. He is a perfect choice for my clients because he previously chaired many employment law jury trials and can thus assess the merits and risks of a case. He is able to clearly and persuasively communicate that insight to both me and my clients." According to John, "I rely on counsel for the parties to provide outstanding advocacy tempered with a recognition of the risks of the litigation process, and the importance of providing resolution, both economically and emotionally. I work tirelessly and with great individual focus to deliver exceptional service to the attorneys and their clients."

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Full-time Neutral, Judicate West (2019-Present)
- Arbitrator, American Arbitration Association, including arbitration of U.S. Olympic Team dispute (1989-Present)
- Professor of Law, Adjunct Faculty, University of San Diego School of Law, teaching Employment Litigation and Sports Law focusing on anti-trust, contract, intellectual property, business liability/risk management issues (1988-2008)
- Shareholder, Littler Mendelson, P.C. (2004-2019)
- Principal, Law Offices of John S. Adler, A.P.C. (1976-2004)
- Military Service, California Army National Guard, including as a JAG Officer and Military Judge, 40th Infantry Division, Long Beach, CA (1971-1981)
- Associate, Brundage, Williams & Zellmann (1974-1976)
- Teacher, NYC Board of Education (1969-1971)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., University of San Diego School of Law (1974)
- M.A., Education, New York University (1971)
- M.A. Political Science, Case Western Reserve University (1969)
- B.A. Political Science, Case Western Reserve University (1968)
- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), Member (2001-Present)
- Mediation Training, Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution (2017)
- Mediation Training, American Arbitration Association courses (1990-Present)

PRACTICE AREAS

All types of Employment including Class Actions & PAGA; Business/Contractual; Personal Injury; Sports Law

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- Commendation Ribbon with Pendant, California Army National Guard, for service as Military Judge, Captain JAGC, for conducting 55 trials "while ensuring all individuals were treated fairly and with compassion at all times."
- AV/Preeminent rating with Martindale-Hubbell Rating since 1990
- Best Lawyers in America (2013-Present)
- San Diego Super Lawyers (2015-Present)

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

In his spare time, John enjoys playing golf, watching baseball, and cooking.

LOCATIONS

San Diego, Nationwide